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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/799,628

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Manabu Sasaki

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EXAMINER

SHEN, KEZHEN

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2627

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

07/09/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/799,628	Applicant(s) SASAKI, MANABU	
	Examiner Kezhen Shen	Art Unit 2627	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 March 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed 3/20/2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Argument 1

Applicant argues Uehigashi does not teach the storing or memorizes read out information in a predetermined area of a memory, based upon the frequency of the accesses for reading out information.

Examiner disagrees. The address information which is stored in the predetermined area of memory as taught by Uehigashi is considered by the Examiner to be the read out information. Regardless of what type of information is being read out, the address information still reads on the information which follows information as claimed. Therefore, the previous rejection is maintained and reproduced here for Applicant's convenience.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Naruse JP411016269A further in view of Uehigashi JP2002230795A.

Regarding claim 1, Naruse teaches an optical disk drive apparatus, for reading-out information from an optical disk 11 (Abstract and Fig. 1), having a plural number of information recording layers made up in a direction of rotation axis thereof (Abstract 1st and 2nd recording layers of the optical disk), through irradiating a light beam upon the information recording layer, and for transferring the information read out to a host-computer (Abstract the data requested to read for the 1st layer are read out on the storage area of the buffer memory and transferred to a data processing part), responding to a transfer request from said host-computer (Abstract the data requested to read), comprising: a memory configured to memorize the information read out from said information recording layers (Abstract the data requested to read for the 1st layer are read out on the storage area of the buffer memory and transferred to a data processing part); and a processor 7 (Abstract controller, Fig. 1) configured to control said memory, wherein: said processor supervises accesses for reading out information to each of said plural number of the information recording layers (Abstract) and memorizes information which follows information (Abstract data on the 1st and 2nd recording layer), upon which a transfer request is made from said host-computer (Abstract the read request), into a predetermined area of said memory (Abstract the storage area of the buffer memory). Naruse fails to teach the transfer request made in dependence upon a frequency of the accesses for reading out information obtained through the supervision thereof.

However Uehigashi teaches the transfer request made in dependence upon a frequency of the accesses for reading out information obtained through the supervision thereof (Abstract reading of arbitrary data to the leading address having the highest access frequency, and is made to stand by based on the leading address). Therefore, one of ordinary skill in the art is motivated to modify the processor and dual recording layer as taught by Naruse and the reading of data based on access frequency as taught by Uehigashi together to create a system of storing and reading out information based on the access frequency for the benefit of reducing the seek time of the optical pickup (Abstract to reduce a seek operation time of an optical pickup).

Regarding claim 2, Naruse teaches the optical disk drive apparatus, as described in the claim 1, wherein said memory comprises said predetermined areas in a plural number thereof, being equal to or greater than two 14 and 15 (Abstract and Fig. 1).

Regarding claim 3, Naruse teaches the optical disk drive apparatus, as described in the claim 1, wherein said processor further makes management on each of information recorded in each layer of said optical disk, from which the information is read out (Abstract). Naruse fails to teach the processor to make management on the access frequency.

However Uehigashi teaches the optical disk drive apparatus wherein the processor makes management on the access frequency for each of information recorded in each layer of said optical disk (Abstract reading of arbitrary data to the leading address having the highest access frequency, and is made to stand by based on the leading address). Therefore, one of ordinary skill in the art is motivated to modify

the processor and dual recording layer as taught by Naruse and the reading of data based on access frequency as taught by Uehigashi together to create a system of storing and reading out information based on the access frequency for the benefit of reducing the seek time of the optical pickup (Abstract to reduce a seek operation time of an optical pickup).

Regarding claim 4, the method described have been analyzed and rejected with respect to the apparatus of claims 1 and 2 above.

Regarding claim 5, the method described have been analyzed and rejected with respect to the apparatus of claim 2 above.

Regarding claim 6, the method described have been analyzed and rejected with respect to the apparatus of claim 3 above.

Conclusion

4. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Contact

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kezhen Shen whose telephone number is (571) 270-1815. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 10:00 am to 6:00 pm EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William Korzuch can be reached on (571) 272-7589. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Kezhen Shen/
Examiner, Art Unit 2627

/William Korzuch/
SPE, Art Unit 2627